

Attorney Docket No. 00146/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Hitoshi KARASAWA

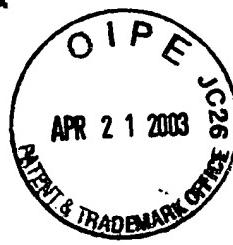
Serial No. : 09/521,367

Filed : March 8, 2000

For : TROCAR SHEATH TUBE

Art Unit : 3731

Examiner : Paul A. Roberts



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date noted below.

Ryan Reynolds
Ryan Reynolds

Dated: April 17, 2003

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Responsive to the Office Action dated March 18, 2003, the term for response to which expires April 18, 2003, please amend the present application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add claims 24 and 25 as follows:

--24. (New) A trocar sheath tube according to claim 8 wherein the hole of the third sealing portion has an inner diameter smaller than that of the hole of the first sealing portion, and the holes of the first and third sealing portions are arranged in line along a longitudinal direction of the insertion portion.

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